When the Princess Mother moved to Doi Tung she vowed to fight the twin evils of child prostitution and opium growing slash-and-burn culture. She and her project staff researched and planted alternative crops on the hills and set up a Cottage Industries Centre where the products of the hills could be, through traditional methods, transformed into high quality goods.

PRINCESS MOTHER’S VILLA

The Villa where the Princess Mother spent her last years is an understated chalet, made from re-cycled shipping crates and is simply but imaginatively decorated. It reflects the unassuming lady who became the mother of a King and whose vision and love of all Thai people wrested control of Doi Tung from the opium warlords and turned it into the well forested hive of activity it is today.

CHIANG SAEN (THAILAND) AND LONG TRAIL BOAT

Reimagine Chiang Saen’s time as the ancient Lanna Kingdom capital. Tour the scattered ruins of defensive walls and sacred temples, reliving the rise and fall of this historic town through the knowledge of your guide. Board a traditional longtail boat to cruise the Mekong. Heading directly across the world’s 12th largest river, you’ll skirt the bank of Laos where local children often play at the water’s edge. Passing the impressive Golden Buddha statue and the point where three countries converge to mark the Golden Triangle.